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HOUSE BILL 325

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Rhonda S. King

AN ACT

**RELATING TO LABOR; CREATING AN EQUAL PAY TASK FORCE; MAKING AN
APPROPRIATION.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**Section 1. TEMPORARY PROVISION--EQUAL PAY TASK FORCE--
MEMBERSHIP--PURPOSE--REPORT. --**

**A. By July 1, 2003, the governor shall appoint an
"equal pay task force" to operate from July 1 to December 1,
2003. The task force shall consist of nine members as follows:**

**(1) two representatives of business, from
names submitted by business organizations and trade
associations;**

**(2) two representatives of labor, from names
submitted by labor unions;**

(3) two representatives of organizations whose

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1 objectives include the elimination of pay disparities between
2 men and women or between minorities and non-minorities and that
3 have undertaken advocacy, educational or legislative
4 initiatives in pursuit of those objectives, from names
5 submitted by those organizations; and

6 (4) three persons from higher education or
7 research institutions who have experience and expertise in the
8 collection and analysis of data concerning pay disparities.

9 B. The governor shall designate the chair of the
10 equal pay task force and the members may designate such other
11 officers as they deem necessary. Vacancies on the task force
12 shall be filled by appointment by the governor. Members of the
13 task force may be reimbursed for per diem and mileage expenses
14 as provided in the Per Diem and Mileage Act.

15 C. The equal pay task force shall:

16 (1) study the extent of wage disparities, both
17 in the public and private sectors, between men and women and
18 between minorities and non-minorities;

19 (2) study the factors that cause or tend to
20 cause wage disparities, including segregation between men and
21 women and between minorities and non-minorities across and
22 within occupations and professions, payment of lower wages for
23 female-dominated occupations, child-rearing responsibilities
24 and education and training;

25 (3) study the consequences of wage disparities

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1 on the state's economy and on families; and

2 (4) develop actions, including legislation,
3 that are likely to lead to the elimination and prevention of
4 wage disparities.

5 D. Staff for the equal pay task force shall be
6 provided by the labor department and the state personnel
7 office. Other state agencies shall assist the task force as
8 requested.

9 E. The equal pay task force shall make periodic
10 reports to the legislative finance committee and other
11 appropriate interim committees. The task force shall present
12 its final report to the governor and the legislature by
13 December 15, 2003. The report shall include the task force's
14 recommendations, including proposed legislation, to eliminate
15 and prevent wage disparities between men and women and between
16 minorities and non-minorities.

17 Section 2. APPROPRIATION.--Twenty thousand dollars
18 (\$20,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the labor
19 department for expenditure in fiscal year 2004 to pay per diem
20 and mileage expenses of members of the equal pay task force.
21 Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of
22 fiscal year 2004 shall revert to the general fund.